

## IN CONGRESS TO-DAY.

## THE OKLAHOMA BILL PASSED BY THE HOUSE.

Unsuccessful Attempts By Its Opponents To Defeat Its Consideration--Vote, Yea, 149; Nay, 102--The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations to Investigate the Samoan Affairs.

The Senate this morning, on motion of Mr. Frazier, who stated that only cold weather was probable, passed the House bill appropriating \$10,000 to be used by the Commissioners in keeping the Potomac River free from ice during the winter. The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations to investigate the Samoan Affairs.

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At 2:10 the Senate went into executive session on the British extradition treaty. It will probably be disposed of to-day.

## HOUSE.

In the House yesterday afternoon after Mr. Currier's report closed, Mr. Payson's Union soldier home-coming amendment was defeated. Several minor amendments were agreed to, and the previous question demanded on the passage of the bill, pending which Mr. Barnes offered a substitute to the bill, which was defeated by a vote of 129 yeas and 199 nays. The close vote encouraged the friends of the substitute to enter a motion to reconsider the vote, after which the House adjourned.

But the House did not adjourn until 5 p.m. as it was made to defeat consideration of the Oklahoma bill by interposing a motion to consider bills on the private calendar, but the motion was defeated and a yes and nay vote taken on the pending motion, which was to lay on the table the motion to reconsider the vote by which the House defeated the Barnes substitute yesterday.

The House finally passed the original Oklahoma bill by a vote of 149 to 102.

## The Territorial Question.

It is understood that an agreement has been reached between the members of the House and the members of the Senate interested in the Territorial Admissions bill by which the policy of the Republicans agreed to in caucus yesterday will meet with the approval of the House conference.

Mr. Springer, it is said, sent word to the members of the Senate Committee on Territories that he was willing to agree to anything that was fair as a compromise. He proposed a compromise that the question of admission be submitted to Dakota as a whole instead of being submitted to the two Territories of Dakota and Nebraska. The members of the House agreed to this proposal, and it was agreed to divide the Territories of North and South Dakota be admitted by Presidential proclamation, and that the Territory of New Mexico be admitted by the House.

It is believed that he will agree to the bill in the form agreed on in the caucus yesterday. This measure the passage of the bill at this session of Congress.

**Nominations Sent to the Senate.**  
The President yesterday nominated Jesse D. Abrahams, of Virginia, to be Comptroller of the Currency, to fill the place made vacant by the resignation of William L. Trenholm, who goes to New York; and Sidney L. Wilson, of Kentucky, to be pension agent at Washington. Neither of these nominations were unexpected. The other nominations follow: Dedus S. Valle, of Montana, to be chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Territory of Montana, vice Newton W. Connel, resigned.

Col. Joseph C. Breckinridge, Inspector-General of the Insular Department with the rank of Brigadier-General.

**The Treaty Shorn of Its Proportions.**  
The Senate considered the British extradition treaty in secret session yesterday. It is understood the provisions of the treaty are so modified as to make its passage a matter of indifference to its friends, and is probable the treaty will be passed in the next few days. It is said the provisions for the extradition of dynamites, Fenians and heavy embezzlers have been entirely dropped. The treaty provides for the extradition of burglars, rapists and embezzlers to the amount of \$500.

**Stenographer for the District Committee.**  
Senator Faulkner introduced a resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Contingent Expenses, that the committee on the District of Columbia employ a stenographer for the use of the committee in hearing arguments on the steam railroad question.

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The House to-day agreed to the resolution authorizing the Secretaries of War and Navy to loan worn flags to the inauguration committee.

The conference report in the bill creating a Department of Agriculture was agreed to in the House to-day.

The House to-day passed a resolution providing that Senate bills on the private calendar shall have precedence in the consideration of the private calendar for two days. There are about 300 Senate bills on the calendar, and it is hoped thus to clear them out of the way.

**The Agricultural Appropriation Bill.** Completed by the House yesterday. The bill provides for the construction of a canal in the District of Columbia. The law to the distribution of seeds is changed, requiring the agricultural colleges to send out the seeds instead of Congressmen doing so, as heretofore.

The conference on the bill making the Agricultural Department an Executive Department, with a Cabinet officer at its head, yesterday agreed upon the bill, striking out the provision transferring the Western Bureau of the Signal Service to the new Department.

**Colonel Fitzgerald's Trial.**  
The argument was proceeded with today in the Criminal Court in the case of Colonel Nathan W. Fitzgerald, who is charged with perjury in having made a false affidavit. Mr. Randolph Coyle addressed the jury for the Government and was followed by Mr. Claugton for the defense.

**Personal Mention.**  
Mr. John McLean is quite ill at his residence with rheumatism of the stomach.

Captain George E. Leno has secured a majority of the capital stock of the National Bank of the Republic.

## INAUGURATION NOTES.

Chaplains Jeremiah Zimmerman of the Methodist Episcopal Church, N. Y., and C. W. Syncope have written that that company intends to come to the inauguration.

General Hastings paid his weekly visit to the inauguration headquarters to-day.

General Longstreet also called for a half hour.

Company B of the Twentieth Regiment, Dakota National Guard, who are on duty, is coming to the inauguration fifty strong.

## THE COMING CABINET.

Blaine and Wamamaker Will Certainly be Members of It.

The New York Commercial Advertiser says that it is in a position to announce positively that James G. Blaine has been offered and has accepted the position of Secretary of State in President Harrison's Cabinet, and that John Wamamaker of Philadelphia has accepted the position of Postmaster-General. This information is received from one of the most prominent Republicans in this country, and his authority is a direct communication from Indianapolis.

The paper continues: "Mr. Allison is an aspirant for Presidential honors, but his intimate friends say that it would be suicidal for him to accept a portfolio under the incoming President. It is certain New York will get one portfolio, and that will be the position of Mr. Chase, conferred to the House amendments to the bill for the relief of property in the District where work on the same was done early February 31, 1871.

Mr. Morrill reported in the Senate to-day from the Committee on the Library an amendment proposed to be proposed to the Sundry Civil bill appropriating \$300,000 for work on the Congressional Library and providing that the work shall be carried on in accordance with the plans of the Chief of Engineers.

Mr. Salisbury offered a resolution in the Senate to-day directing the Committee on Foreign Relations to inquire into the condition of affairs in Samoa to-day, and to report on what means are necessary for the proper protection of the interests of American citizens in Samoa, and to report on the condition of the United States to the natives of the island in protecting their government. The resolution was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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## MR. WEBB'S TESTIMONY.

## HE DESCRIBES HIS ACTION IN BUYING THE SITES.

He Did Not Regard Mr. Cox as the Agent of the Commissioners, Nor Did He Pay Him For His Services.

After Mr. Currier's report of the proceedings of the committee investigating the purchase of school sites closed yesterday Mr. George R. Webb, a partner of Mr. Weller's, was called, and stated that the school site on Fifth street, southeast, near Virginia avenue, was bought from his firm at 30 cents per foot. The sale was made through Charles E. Taylor, The District paid 30.4 cents per foot. The witness did not see why the District should pay more for the site than was paid his firm—30 cents.

The station-house site on Ninth street northeast was also bought from this firm. Mr. Webb said the site was sold to Mr. Cox, and that he (Webb) received a check from the District for \$2,400, and he gave Mr. Cox \$238.44 out of this, besides half the commission that he received from the owner for selling it.

He was asked what he thought was a fair price for the site bought through W. C. Dodge as it was sold per foot, and he said forty cents per foot was a fair price.

Mr. R. O. Holtzman was called as an expert in real estate. He answered the questions of the committee, and said he did not see any place for which an excessive price was paid. He did not think the Commissioners could have done as well in open market.

Commissioner Webb was asked to take the stand. He said he wanted the committee to understand that the Commissioners appointed to investigate the work on the various sites of the Government, and he succeeded a Commissioner who had the public schools and the school sites under his management. He said he was related to the site he was asked to take the stand. He said he was related to the site he was asked to take the stand.

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## HOW ENGLAND REGARDS IT.

## Views of the London Press on the Samoan Affairs.

LONDON, Feb. 1.—The Standard this morning says: "Prince Bismarck is not likely to court a quarrel with the United States for the sake of gratifying the local spite of Herr Weber or any of the pushing Germans who aspire to treat the Samoan Islands as their Pacific preserve. There is no mistaking the earnestness and sincerity of the protests made at Washington in this case. No theory of electiveness or expediency can be invoked to explain away the uncompromising language employed by the leading politicians."

"The reserve with which Mr. Bayard has responded to appeals made to the State Department for prompt and energetic action to prevent the German Government from interfering with the neutrality of the group is contemplated, but it must be owned that there is enough in recent proceedings to justify the concern with which American statesmen faced the situation."

"Surely it is time that the cooler head of the Chancellor should override the fiery ardor of his subordinates at Berlin. He has work enough on hand as it is. Why should he make the representations of the United States to his own Government a subject of contention which is a mistake to enter and which it would be fatiguing to prosecute?"

"The Daily News says: 'There is no doubt that the German Government is in a position to enforce its policy in Samoa, and that the United States will have to make a choice between the policy of furthering the interests of Samoa and the policy of enforcing its own policy in Samoa. Its justification will have to be made clearer than it is now.'"

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